



Fire Safety Checklist

Seattle Fire Department Fire Prevention Division

Take this fire safety inventory to see how safe your home is.

Heating

- ☐ Baseboard heaters do not touch any furniture or curtains.
- ☐ You have your chimneys and heating systems inspected, cleaned and repaired prior to the heating season.
- ☐ All curtains near heating equipment are arranged so as not to touch the equipment.
- ☐ All portable heaters are placed at least three feet from bedding, furniture, and other flammable materials.
- ☐ Every fireplace is equipped with a sturdy metal screen.

Keep an eye on heating equipment. Remember to turn portable heaters off and to allow fires to go out before leaving home or going to sleep.

Electrical

- ☐ You only buy electrical equipment that has the seal of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- ☐ You use as few extension cords and plug adapters as possible.

- ☐ Extension cords you do use are in the open, not tacked to walls, under rugs, or through doorways.

Each year in North America, hundreds of people die and thousands more are injured in accidents involving electrical fires or shocks.

Housekeeping

- ☐ You practice good housekeeping by keeping your basement, attic, and closets cleared of papers, mattresses, broken furniture, and other combustible odds and ends.
- ☐ Paint, varnish, and other flammables are stored in sturdy metal containers and in a cool place.
- ☐ You put ashes from the fireplace and barbecues in metal containers and only dispose of the contents when cold.

Most fatal fires start in the home. You can protect your household and your property by following fire safe practices.

Kitchen

- ☐ You keep your stove and oven clean of grease to prevent the occurrences of a fire.

(Over)



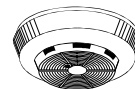
Every 15 seconds, a fire department responds to a fire somewhere in the United States. The major causes of home fire deaths are smoking materials, heating, arson, and children playing with matches and lighters. By paying careful attention to these issues, each of us can share the responsibility of keeping our homes safe from fire.

Built-in Safety

Make sure your home has these safety features to help keep you safe.

Smoke Detectors

All homes should be equipped with working smoke detectors. There should be at least one on every level of the home. Battery powered smoke detectors should be tested every month, and batteries changed at least once a year.



If you live in an apartment, it is your responsibility to maintain your smoke detectors, while your landlord is responsible for providing working smoke detectors when you move in.

Fire Extinguishers

Properly operated, fire extinguishers can help stop a small fire before it has a chance to grow out of control. Home fire extinguishers can be purchased from a hardware or home improvement store.



Evacuation Plan

Every family should develop and practice a home escape plan that includes every member of the household.

Remember, even with these safety features, prevention is still the best strategy!

☐ In the event of a grease fire, you know that the best thing to do is to put a lid on it.

☐ You always remain in the kitchen while the stove or oven are on. You never leave cooking unattended.

☐ You never use your oven to heat your home.

The reason most cooking fires happen is that someone has left the kitchen while cooking something on the stove.

Smoking

☐ Matches, lighters, and smoking materials are kept out of the reach of small children.

☐ *No Smoking In Bed* is a rule in your home.

Fires started by smoking materials cause more fatalities than any other type of fire.

Smoke Detectors

☐ Smoke detectors are installed on a ceiling or high on the wall outside of the bedroom(s) on each level of your home. You have also considered putting smoke detectors inside bedrooms as well.

☐ You make certain that your smoke detector battery is changed once a year.

☐ You test and clean your smoke detector(s) on a monthly basis.

A working smoke detector cuts the risk of dying in a home fire by nearly half.

Escape Plan

☐ You have a plan of escape showing two ways out of every room in your home, especially bedrooms.

☐ You regularly practice your escape plan by holding fire drills in your home.

☐ Every phone is labeled with a 911 sticker and your address.

Fire prevention and preparation can save lives!

Items that you did not mark may put you at a higher risk from fire. Take steps to make sure you are as fire safe as possible.

Your fire safety questions can be answered by calling the Seattle Fire Department Public Education Office at 386-1338.

